

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PORT O 02271 071705Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 HA-05 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00
ICAE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-10
NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04
SIL-01 OMB-01 SS-15 STR-07 CEA-01 L-03 DODE-00
PA-01 /082 W

-----122428 071713Z /47

O 071659Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2776
INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SPAIN 02271

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM, EGEN, EAID, PORC, TD
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE MULTILATERAL BANKS

REF: A) STATE 198043, B) STATE 15725

1. EMBASSY DELIGHTED ARELLANO, SCHNEIDER AND BRADFORD WILL INCLUDE PORT OF SPAIN IN THEIR UPCOMING ROUND OF CONSULTATIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE IFIS. THERE IS WORK TO BE DONE HERE; WHILE THIS COUNTRY HAS GOOD HUMAN RIGHTS RECORD, THERE IS CONSIDERABLE LACK OF APPRECIATION FOR THE STAND WE TAKE IN THE IFIS BY QUOTE INTRODUCING POLITICAL CRITERIA UNQUOTE INTO THE OPERATIONS OF THESE APOLITICAL INSTITUTIONS. WE BELIEVE ARRIVAL OF SPECIAL TEAM FROM WASHINGTON TO CONSULT ON THIS ISSUE CERTAINLY CAN BE PRODUCTIVE.

2. WHILE WE THEREFORE LOOK FORWARD TO THIS IMPORTANT VISIT, AVAILABLE LEAD TIME IS EXCEEDINGLY SHORT FOR THIS COUNTRY. TODAY IS A LOCAL HOLIDAY; NO ONE IS AVAILABLE. REQUESTS FOR THURSDAY MEETINGS CANNOT BE INITIATED UNTIL TOMORROW (TUESDAY). AS YOU KNOW, SENIOR GOTT OFFICIALS WILL NOT GET
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INVOLVED IN POTENTIALLY CONTROVERIAL SUBJECTS WITHOUT SPECIFIC ADVANCE APPROVAL AND INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE PRIME MINISTER. MATTER IS FURTHER COMPLICATED BY THE FACT THAT THURSDAYS ARE CABINET MEETING DAYS HERE AND EVERY TOP OFFICIAL WILL BE OCCUPIED WITH THAT BUSINESS. MEETINGS WITH MID-LEVEL OFFICIALS, WHICH IS WHAT WE WILL ALMOST CERTAINLY HAVE TO SETTLE FOR UNDER THESE CONDITIONS, PROBABLY CAN BE

USEFUL - THE WORD DOES TRAVEL UPWARDS, BUT IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO HAVE THE EARS OF MORE SENIOR OFFICIALS DIRECTLY.

3. IT WOULD, IF PRACTICAL FOR THE GROUP, BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO SHIFT PORT OF SPAIN TO LATER IN THE SCHEDULE. PLEASE LET US KNOW IMMEDIATELY IF THIS CAN BE DONE. O'MAHONY

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Message Attributes

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